Anthony Summers - After Not In Your Lifetime HD

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qNH-x4Po-l0 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qNH-x4Po-l0)

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"What we really have cause to think we know is that after all this time, and the efforts of so many people, so much remains unknown." Anthony Summers

A former senior BBC journalist, Anthony Summers is the author of nine major non-fiction books. His investigative work has ranged from the fate of the last Russian Tzar in 1918 to Britain's Profumo sex/spy scandal, to the John F. Kennedy assassination, to the September 9/11 attacks. He has written biographies of Marilyn Monroe, J. Edgar Hoover, Richard Nixon, and Frank Sinatra. His book on the Kennedy assassination, originally published in 1980, has been updated several times – most recently in 2013 – with the title of "Not In Your Lifetime." The New York Times deemed it 'important', the Los Angeles Times 'an awesome work', the Boston Globe 'the closest we have to a definitive work on the events of Dallas.'

Summers was a finalist for the 2012 Pulitzer Prize for History with his book, with co-author Robbyn Swan, on the 9/11 attacks. He is the only two-time winner of the British Crime Writers' Association top award for crime non-fiction – once for his book on Dallas. He is a Fellow of the Historical Society of University College Dublin.

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Anthony summers thank you good afternoon and I'm sure that you were gilding the lily there I'm not and I'm not even sure that I'd want to have that responsibility being responsible for you being here for several days as the I'm going to be you know I thought it before lunch that John Newman any minute was going to produce a large box and put a man or woman inside it and then cut it in half with a circular saw and and then and proved that it was in two parts and then put it together again and hey presto the woman or the man would jump out of the box and it would it was just magical stuff and I'm not going to do anything like that I might take on on this case is the take of possibly of a lazy person certainly of a reporter and we certainly know that there are a lot of reporters who are very very lazy as the cliche has it I know where I was that day for a fellow who's made his living ever since as as a journalist and author my memory for me has a special relevance when the news from Dallas broke I was at University in England working in a pub to pay my way it was early evening UK time and news of

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it was early evening UK time and news of the accession nation came through to the bar where I was pulling pints on the radio within minutes and that was very fast in those days the phone rang beside me on the bar and it was the boss of a major TV program that I'd worked for in the summer vacation moonlighting because I had reporting ambitions very early on and he said can you get to Heathrow Airport to fly to Dallas tonight I'm chartering a plane and sent a team how soon can you get there well can you imagine I was not yet 21 years old the offer of such an assignment was an extraordinary honor for me I said yes sir I made my excuses to the man who ran the pub and I ran for a toothbrush in two taxi and I was just getting in the taxi when the phone rang again and this time it was the great man's secretary saying sorry but we I was asked to tell you

that we found someone with more experience and I went back to pulling pints and and for me that for a long time what was was the end of covering the Kennedy assassination for nearly 20 years I saw mark Lane on television and was deeply underwhelmed I followed the Jim Garrison Circus fairly closely there's a news story and I concluded then that it was it was a circus and I still feel it was a circus I'm using years later I met Jim Garrison and that's another story but he asked to meet me and it was all so secretive this was long after the New Orleans affair and he asked to meet me in a sauna bath I mean it was all very strange but 20 years nearly 20 years later the call

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years nearly 20 years later the call came again from a television producer again the house assassinations committee he said had been mulling coming to a conspiracy finding would I make a documentary for the British Broadcasting Corporation of BBC and for a US company which was paying for it and I did make an hour-long programme and of course the boon that I had at that time was that many of the of the important witnesses were still alive whereas of course now many many have gone so I had that huge advantage the documentary was called what do we know now that we we didn't know then at all these years later it seems to me still very relevant to ask ourselves that question one of the reasons I don't say that I know what happened in Dallas that expressed what I hope rational suspicions is the reason that I wrote the book in the first place as I plunged into the black hole that his assassin ology I thought many of the puzzles had probably been tackled by an earlier generation of reporters in this back in the 60s after all wasn't I in a fine profession then I got angry very angry I discovered that they hadn't done the work with a few honorable exceptions there'd be no serious attempted investigative reporting I am to think that most reporting should be I mean I hate the word investigative reporting that's what we should do for a living in the land of the free suddenly there'd be very little investigation and if you're kind enough to read the latest edition of my book I'm on the case take a look at how rarely in a hundred pages of sourcing notes at the end I quote from major media sources I quote them hardly at all because few reporters did any

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at all because few reporters did any real work the media were shamefully delinquent and that's really the reason that I stuck at this after I'd made the documentary and wrote my my book in its first form in those days before Vietnam and Watergate and the era of real chronic skepticism about those in power investigation was left to government as former committee chief counsel Blakey said a long time ago it was in his quote shattering to discover how poor the apparently thorough official probe of the president's murder really was I noticed a couple of days ago in the Washington Post that a former Warren staffer now in his eighties Charles Shafer jr. was quoted last week as saying maybe we missed something he said he suspected organized crime figures were perhaps involved I don't think I'm wrong he didn't mention the intelligence agencies in in any context at all the Warren Commission of course with all respect to Schaffer and his his comment about the mob which was not irrelevant had it that Jack Ruby who killed Oswald silencing him forever had no significant link to the Mafia the House Committee would show conclusively that to the contrary Ruby Han fact had links to organized crime from his youth until just before the assassination the committee would also find and people usually forget this find links between Oswald's family and organized crime the committee suspected the mob but could pin nothing on the Mafia leaders of the day and although you have to look harder for that in the committee's work than you did for the

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committee's work than you did for the suspicions about organized crime they also cast suspicion on the murkier parts of the anti-castro movement but still again nothing that they didn't stick it to the D CIA or the intelligence agencies when the Justice Department failed to follow through as the committee had recommended few noticed even though the committee's former chief counsel Blakey had said quite seriously that he believed back then and I haven't heard this mention for a long time he believed back then around 1980 that a tough renewed investigation could have brought conspirators to trial to think now though that

anyone officially is going to do anything about this case some of you may disagree may seem to be whistling Dixie on marking the 50th anniversary last year however there was a piece in The New Yorker by John Cassidy he pointed out that there is quote a substantial reason why the doubters survived the official version of events begs questions in some aspects it beggars belief questioning the official version of history is a sign of democratic vigor yes it is and and so we should feel better about being gathered here this weekend I took the title of my book now Carrie's not in your lifetime from the answer that Chief Justice Warren gave in 1964 when asked if all the investigations information would be made public he said some of you know this yes there will come a time but it might not be in your lifetime I'm not referring to anything especially but there may be some things that involve security this would be preserved but not made public he said he was thinking of stays by the assert the alleged assassin in the Soviet Union and Mexico and the may

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Soviet Union and Mexico and the may indeed have been national security ramifications at that time since then of course and against the wishes of some federal agencies as we've heard again this afternoon MIT and not least thanks to Jim Lazar millions of pages of documents have been released not that 50 years on we have anything like all some army intelligence and Secret Service records have been destroyed there are questions too as to the whereabouts of some naval intelligence material the CIA is and I think this remains cadet correct withholding at least 1171 and Jim wood would calculate it as more documents as quote national security classified still today if one single thing keeps those seriously focused on researching the case going it's the challenge those continued with holdings posed and keeps me in darkest island also still somewhat interested what we really have cause to think we know is that after all this time and the efforts of so many people so much remains unknown but you don't have to be what they like to dab a conspiracy she theorist to harbor multiple questions about the evidence the Warren Commission handed down as certainties millions no look excuse me largely thanks to people like you how badly the autopsy and I'm going to mention a few things that are ground zero on the case but they're worth reminding ourselves about on a day in which you know with all respect to John Newman who's a friend of mine and I've used some of his work in one of my books but I mean this was really complex stuff I think you'll agree that John was going through today I think it's worth going back to a few of the the baselines the

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back to a few of the the baselines the autopsy and ballistic evidence was handled so poorly in our Western societies I think one would hope that a homeless persons autopsy would be handled better than John Kennedy's even in Ireland there are people who still give to a lot of time and debate to the studying the wounds the trajectories and the bullet fragments and some of them will be talking here and I respect the work they do but I've long since distance myself from all that I guess because to accept the physical to we should we ought to accept now that the physical evidence area is what the lawyers call a non laquet something that will never be resolved force assertion better at least for me to look elsewhere easier anyway fingerprint evidence can of course be crucial and Oswald's prints I remind you again were found on book cartons near the window from which he allegedly fired from the Texas School Book Depository but that proved nothing that's intended as an employee the alleged assassin had been legitimately working in that very area what though remember this of the palm print found on one of the boxes that was never identified who's with that we don't know not least because in a ludicrous oversight not all those who worked in the building were fingerprinted why not because after Oswald was arrested the building superintendent us that the fingerprinting process be halted and incredibly law enforcement officials obliged so we don't know whose palm print that was could have been innocent could have been quite not the opposite of innocent there is as you know much more the possibility for example that Oswald wasn't on the infamous sixth floor at the time the shots were fired he claimed he'd been in a downstairs lunchroom at the time and there were witnesses who supported to his story or

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witnesses who supported to his story or appeared to support his story I think it was myself who interviewed in detail for the first time Caroline Arnold the secretary to a senior executive in the building she told me she saw Oswald in the lunchroom at 12:15 p.m. or perhaps as late as 1225 p.m. I found her credible and I've had no cause to change my mind had the motorcade been on time in fact it ran five minutes late and went by at 12:30 the president would have passed the building at twenty twelve twenty five would a would-be assassin who planned to kill the president have been sitting around downstairs as late as 12:15 or anything like that bedrock staff I think it's still important yet it proved nothing as an employee the alleged assassin had been legitimately I'm sorry mr. mr. paragraph there's something else that's towering Lee important the cliche is that murderers usually have motive means and opportunity Oswald had the opportunity and he had the means a rifle but motive the Commission never figured out a satisfactory motive for Oswald the overall testimony was that he rather liked the president and there's not a jot of even half reliable evidence that he loved him let alone wished to do him harm a geologist volkmar Schmitt who talked of Oswald's anger towards Kennedy over Cuba in a TV interview three decades later had right after the assassination told the FBI that Oswald had said nothing to him the president Schmitz later interview had zero credibility Oswald's behavior on November the 22nd sure leaves it highly likely certain I would say and there be people who

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would say and there be people who disagree that he was no innocent he was clearly somehow involved in what later in what occurred that day but how could it be that as Oswald himself claimed he was a patsy set up to take the blame any serious look at the case involves disentangling the threads that run through Oswald's activity in the months and years before the assassination the clandestine operations of US intelligence the Cuba factor and organized crime the u.s. mafia I can only sketch in the outlines of the intelligence angle others have done that in far more depth and certainly more closely than I then I could sometimes follow consider though Oswald's three year defection to the Soviet Union and his return the year before the assassination this was a former US Marine who'd had access at the height of the Cold War to some information on the operations of the u-2 spy plane on defecting he'd said openly that he'd undertaken to give the Soviets what he knew he was a self-declared would-be traitor would you not think that on returning to the United States Oswald would have been at a minimum severely interrogated the official line however has been that Oswald was allowed to return home and melt back into life as a law-abiding citizen it doesn't wash and snippets of evidence indicate otherwise there's that CIA document long withheld in its full version that shows that also that officials discussed quote the laying on of interviews on his return a senior member of the Soviet Russia division wrote that his department had an oh I that's operational intelligence in Oswald someone on the CIA's counterintelligence staff had placed Oswald's name

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Oswald's name on what was called the CI project watchlist as early as the time of his defection to the USSR and as Jefferson Morley noted the interest continued until a few weeks before the assassination I tried in my book to speculate very little but were this left-wing defector come traitor think somewhat a sort of Junior League Edward Snowden interrogated on his return might he have been given options like you're a traitor subject to a lengthy sterling stay in jail or perhaps you're a traitor and you could go to jail or you could perhaps be useful to us maintain your left-wing stance and we may get you to do things for us back to the facts as well did return to civilian life did go to back to his focus on social objectivity and especially on communist Cuba remember the date he came back it was shortly before the Cuban Missile Crisis the armed standoff and the propaganda war between the US and the Soviet Union and Castro's Cuba was at its most tense and dangerous Oswald joined we all know the pro-castro fair play for Cuba committee went to New Orleans the city of his birth and ostensibly went about setting up that local branch of fair play for Cuba I say ostensibly because the indications are that it was a Sharad he reported a clash in the street with some anti-castro Cuban exiles a week before it occurred stuff like that just isn't going to go away when the clash did occur and also was arrested for disturbing the peace two police officers got the impression there was some sort of a setup that Oswald was quote being used used used by whom the files show that the fair play for Cuba committee

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that the fair play for Cuba committee was being targeted bugged and infiltrated by the FBI the group with which Oswald clashed and people have talked about this today the directorio rifle Revolucionario helpme bassiano revolución a yo-yo can't do it s student Hill or D re was being manipulated by the CIA as part of the secret war against Cuba a war that involved both armed raids on Cuba by exile fighters and complex propaganda operations the dr d re leaders in new orleans reported back to a CIA case officer i had an interview and i haven't seen this reported anywhere else with a former paid to love the FBI Joseph Burton the bureau described him as a valuable and reliable source whose job back then was to pose as a Marxist and infiltrate radical groups Burton told me that Oswald had been quote connected with the FBI that FBI agents had spoken of owning Oswald the FBI and the CIA who offer historically at loggerheads with each other were cooperating to an unusual extent at that time in September 1963 a CIA officer and a senior FBI official meant to discuss new plans for action against the pro-castro fair play for Cuba committee the CIA quote advised that it was giving some consideration to countering the activities of the committee in foreign countries and giving thought to planting deceptive information which might embarrass the committee the day after that memo was signed oswald applied for a tourist card for a visit to mexico a new passport was issued to him within 24 hours even though his application stated he might wish to return to the Soviet Union you might think given Oswald's background as a defector that's a little surprising

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a defector that's a little surprising Oswald did go of course to Mexico City and his six-day visit remains thank you remains of course one of the most mysterious telltale perhaps telltale episodes of the entire story it makes for a fresh chapter in the new edition of my book although here we have to zip past it in a couple of minutes and you all know that his ostensible purpose Mexico was to go to the Cuban and Soviet embassies armed with his credentials as a pro-castro activist to try to get a visa to go to Cuba he failed the Cubans I went to Mexico and to Cuba and talked to relevant witnesses have said that they thought that he might well be a CIA as jean provocateur it seems it leaves possible I would say more than possible especially fed a couple of drinks that the CIA that the sea I did indeed hope to use Oswald wittingly or unwittingly as a cog in the covert anti-castro operations I say perhaps unwittingly for there are indications that an agency imposter used Oswald's identity in Mexico City the house assassinations committee took this possibility seriously and we've heard from Eddie Lopez and Dan highway on this today and separate into information nothing to do with Oswald establishes that the use of imposters by the CIA was a common ploy at the time Jeremy Gunn who was the executive director of the assassination records Review Board said a standard operation was to impersonate Americans in telephone contact with the Soviet embassy more important and this is more stuff that just won't go away is the tangle of information that arose from the CIA's photographic and audio surveillance of the Communist embassies they were both of course and we heard from Eddie on this covered by cameras

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from Eddie on this covered by cameras monitoring comings and goings CIA microphones inside the Cuban embassy they still keep them in Havana and they showed them to me or they showed me what they said were the microphones that the CIA had planted it's the BBC and me coming out and and telephone calls were all bugged this is all this is so established as so we know it two of the calls the doors were supposedly made to the Soviet embassy appear not to have been made by the real oswald could were not established whether that is so by comparing the voice on the tape with the known voice of the authentic Oswald good specimen was available recent broadcast he was done in connection with his pro-castro activity in Louisiana well no said the CIA it claimed the Mexico surveillance tapes had been routinely wiped weeks before the assassination because it claimed although we now know that it caught not so at all Oswald had supposedly been of no interest except we also know from the draft memoir left behind by somebody who I don't think as we mentioned today the the then CIA station chief in Mexico City Winston Scott that in his words Oswald quote had been a person of great interest of an emphasis on the word great to us during his village we kept a

special watch on him except two that we can now be virtually certain that the tapes were not routinely wiped before the assassination senior Warren Commission counsel William Coleman and his fellow commissioner tourney David Slauson and in his retirement the CIA station chief deputy all told me in the 1990s that they listened to a tape recording of Oswald apparently while in Mexico in April 1964 months after the assassination there's recently been

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assassination there's recently been internet discussion of this which I reported a long time ago with the suggestion that all those men Coleman Slauson and chief of station and the deputy chief of station may have quote remembered something that never happened I've igger ously counter that I interviewed all three men within an hour or so on the same afternoon UK time it was as clear as it could be that Slauson and Coleman admitted to having listened to the tape only once they knew from me because they asked me what the deputy station chief had said that he'd acknowledged it very rapidly afterwards I flew to the States to DC and and to to California to quiz all three of them again and it was clear that each of them had been concerned that they were breaching security in telling me about having listened to the tape as late as April 1964 it's been suggested recently by Shannon in in conversations relating to his book on the case last year that of the three Coleman may have been becoming senile and misremembered I can only say that I talked with Coleman at length in his office took lunch at his house swam with him is in a swimming pool visit Lee swimming around the swimming pool talking about Mexico City and it's my view that this was a man who still had all his marbles those three guys were absolutely consistent in what they said and it was clear that the two Warren Commission guys until they heard that the CIA CIA deputy ization chief had acknowledged listening to the tapes they were very worried about admitting

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they were very worried about admitting it they were worried about in Coleman's terms what I signed back then what became of the recording of that they listened to and indeed the photographs that were so were surely snapped or was fooled by the surveillance cameras on one surely of a total of five visits to the communist embassies the CIA has offered no satisfactory answer but we know that when station Chiefs got died some years afterwards counterintelligence chief James Hamilton flew down to Mexico within hours searched through the dead man's belongings searched Scotts seized Scott's draft memoir and what's been described as a stack of reel-to-reel tapes labeled Oswald and ordered that they be flown to headquarters in Washington though some of the memoir has been released to the station Chiefs next to Kin it seems that the other material was disposed of under a CIA destruction order it goes on and on and I want to get something that is brand-new a new as of last year in word that I did for my book there's the what Sylvia Marc called years ago the rosetta stone of the case the testimony of the OTO sisters which strongly suggests to this day that there was an attempt to set Oswald up they posed a problem for the Warren Commission one that never was resolved never has been resolved Commission attorneys took the view that the OTO sisters were excellent credible witnesses that their account seemed truthful I got what I believe were the first independent interviews with Sylvia Danni audio and I share that view they were they were entirely credible women so it looks as though someone anyway whoever it was was attempting to set Oswald up just weeks before the assassination there's more and it goes

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assassination there's more and it goes back to what I said about the beginning about the notion that organized crime had something to do with the assassination in the attempts to establish who the two Hispanics who'd accompanied Oswald to see the odio sisters were investigators took statements from a man who initially led them down a false trail offering what Congress's committee called a fabrication this was Lauren Hall alias pasillo he served in the US Army reportedly trained in counterintelligence was indeed involved with the anti-castro campaign in the New Orleans area and he'd worked for mafia boss Santo Trafficante one of the two mafia bosses who's been linked repeatedly to the assassination which brings us to

the issue of motive and if Oswald didn't kill the president or at any rate didn't do it on his own who did who might have had the motive to kill Brooke Kennedy though Oswalt had lived for a long time in Russia and with a couple of years in Russia and though available information makes it clear that Soviet intelligence took a real interest in him no serious observer still suggests or ever rarely suggested that the Soviets wanted the president's death or had anything to do with the assassination the theory that Castro's Cuba was behind the tragedy has had serious attention over the years not least last year in the context of the possibility that Castro learned of CIA efforts to kill him and struck first the supporting evidence for such a theory however is very flimsy militating against it is the fact that had Washington discovered that Cuba had a hand in the assassination u.s. retaliation would could have been expected to be devastating to have swept the revolution away once and for all and

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the revolution away once and for all and Castro and his people knew that of the plausible suspects that leaves for me the anti-castro exiles mafia bosses and I don't reject the possibility although I don't lean towards it nearly as strongly as some people who've talked today elements within the CIA there's no inherent conflict in lumping those three together all three were committed to the fight against Castro the math here because the Revolution had robbed them of their gambling goldmine the anti-castro people in there CI backers for obvious reasons many anti-castro fighters loath Kennedy with a passion because they thought he had betrayed their cause at the Bay of Pigs invasion in 1961 by the way he'd resolved the Missile Crisis and by his subsequent clamp down on their activity Mafia bosses notably trafficante and New Orleans of Carlos Marcello hated the president and had even threatened allegedly to kill him because the Kennedy administration was conducting its onslaught on organized crime if the anti-castro groups and the mob bosses did plot to kill Kennedy seen to it that the crime was blamed on a pro-castro activist would have seemed like a masterstroke after all this and we've only scratched the surface the endgame have there been any plausible admissions on the 50th anniversary last year there was discussion of admissions that Mafia bosses trafficante and Carlos Marcello supposedly made in old age I've looked hard at their stories and the alleged confession tales are in my view very unreliable when he talked about suspecting that the mob might have had a hand in the assassination in the

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had a hand in the assassination in the post last last couple of days ago Charles Schaeffer was cited as saying he was troubled by the late mob lawyer Frank Reagan has claimed the Trafficante admitted to him just before he died that he and Marcelo were behind the assassination I looked into that I mean this is simple stuff maybe but it is what I do I looked into that thoroughly I interview Dragana and I didn't believe him there's not only no evidence that trafficante was where and when he supposedly was when regatta said the Trafficante confessed but I found information indicating that the mob boss was actually elsewhere bragging himself struck me as an unreliable witness trying to make headlines with his book and make a buck I talked to him half a day I set much more store by other apparent admissions some of them clean from my own interviewing Traficant I associate John Matty Martino should be high on any suspect list his connection with the Mafia bosses I'd he'd worked in a casino in Cuba before the Revolution done time in a Castro jail worked on both the military and the propaganda operation to topple Castro and was amongst those who spun stories about Oswald after the assassination his wife Florence told me that her husband spoke of an imminent it's a sensation attempt on the morning of November the 22nd and this is the kind of testimony from an interviewee that I warm to that her husband had talked about an assassination attempt going down on the morning of November the 22nd hours before it took place according to her and the couple's son Edward the news from Dallas when it came seemed more like confirmation later when he was dying of heart disease Martino told an

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dying of heart disease Martino told an associate whom I also interviewed that he'd been part of the assassination Martino said the anti-castro people put Oswald together Oswald didn't know who he was working for Oswald made a mistake they had Ruby kill him Martino referred to to a second gunman who'd been involved a Cuban who had been the other trigger on the matter of a second gunman there may be progress at last in 2007 in the company of former chief counsel professor Blakey I visited Florida to speak with Reynaldo Martinez a Cuban no one had heard of before Martinez was in his 80s and he'd made contact with Blakey saying there was something he wanted to get off his chest before he died while in a Castro prison in the mid-1960s on a minor charge involving illegal currency offenses Martinez said he'd learned that an anti-castro fighter he'd known well since their student days had spoken of his participation participation in the assassination of the president the fighters name was herminio diaz he'd worked in one of mafia boss trip bus traffic antes casinos is listed in CIA files he was a crack marksman unknown assassin and he was in the United States in 1963 after Blakey and I had talked with Martinez for the best part of a day I interviewed him on camera here now is a clip of that interview I hope with a Cuban exile living in Miami Reynaldo Martinez contacted the former chief counsel of the house assassinations committee to say he had information that he wanted to get off his chest before he died Martinez wanted to talk about a man who

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Martinez wanted to talk about a man who was once his closest friend herminio Diaz who had been a committed anti-castro fighter and before the Revolution worked in a mafia run casino in Havana Diaz Martinez came to believe took part in the Kennedy assassination Mimi horribly my best friend was a mini Oda Garcia a minnow era una persona Herminia was a very reserved person very introverted very serious and spoke very little but he was exceptionally courageous sexual amino Armenia I don't think he finished at the Institute in Havana he left shooting he was passionate about it whether with a rifle or a pistol it was his obsession he always had a weapon on him as corroborating information confirms tears became an assassin he prefers violent act he committed was the murder of kuku Hernandez Vega in the Cuban embassy in Mexico after that he got involved in trying to kill Tijeras the president of Costa Rica and we got involved too in anti Batista activities including an attempt on Batista's life what it out by 1959 Diaz was working as a security guard in a Havana casino run by mafia boss Santo Trafficante come the Revolution when Castro plays Trafficante under arrest it was Diaz who fixed his release video he asked me a favor to bring him to tres Konya to see a man named Santo Trafficante who had promised him that if he got out he would make a menial head of security at the Riviera Amenia asked them to release Santo Trafficante

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Trafficante it wasn't a problem just a matter of fixing things trafficante was released four days later soon after Diaz also left Cuba Martinez who wound up in a Castro prison never saw his friend alive again in 1966 news broke the DEA's and a fellow anti-castro fighter carrying American ID had been killed in a raid on the Cuban Coast the Raiders leader Antonio cuesta was terribly wounded in prison still traumatized he talked with Martinez Yoko both able to vote on him I spoke a lot with Tony cuesta because of course I was sorry about the situation he was in in you on my friendship with a minion he told me there had been a moment when a minion had told him Tony cuesta that admin you had participated in the murder of the President of the United States Rahman that was the conversation that day that's all he said yes that's what he said didn't you present two details no it was as if he hadn't told me I accepted it because he told me and I believe that in that moment he wasn't lying to me but I didn't present him to tell me more was having your professionally capable of doing that Oh Amelio yes alminia wasn't professional in that in the use of weapons did you believe it at the time I neither believed it nor did they disbelieve it because I had no evidence to know if it was the truth I think he told me the

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was the truth I think he told me the truth what Martin has told us was of course hearsay and more complex than can be explained in a briefs and I he insisted though that it was la verdad me verdad the truth my truth is this significant information on the faith that befell President Kennedy in Dallas Martinez friend Diaz had an appropriate profile he was a crack marksman had an own track record as political assassin and was involved with the Mafia and the more extreme anti-castro groups both of which were bitterly hostile to the president when the shots rang out in Dealey Plaza in November 1963 was Diaz there behind a gun forgive the bit of theater at the end with the roles on the drums I believed I I found that witness credible as he talked to me and council chief counsel Blakey I found incredible and Blake he told me he thought it for quotation that he thought it potentially a breakthrough of historic importance in the fog of knowns and unknowns of the case our elements that could perhaps tell us whether and how Oswald the pro-castro Marxist may have been set up to take the blame in New Orleans there was the d-r-e the anti-castro group that appeared to clash with a appeared to clash with a pro-castro oswald that group was funded and supervised by the CIA a fact the CIA failed to reveal to the warren commission in Mexico City was senior CIO David Phillips whom we've heard about at nauseam today and probably will continue to hear about he'd previously been the CIS man in Havana running anti-castro

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CIS man in Havana running anti-castro propaganda with oversight over operations in your liens and in charge of the surveillance operations against the Cuban and Soviet embassies at the timer's will visited Phillips may have been one and the same as Maurice Bishop an intelligence officer who after the assassination allegedly sought to fabricate information linking Oswald to the Castro Cubans the source to that claim is Antonio vasana founder of the militant anti-castro group Alfa 66 now in his 80s he's here today and will shortly speak with us himself it will be an unprecedented public appearance that those of us who know him greatly appreciate I long since interviewed Antonio at length and multiplied and found him to a credible source I interviewed him many times repeatedly so first before me had the late Gaiden Fonzie a House Committee investigator whom I came to know well and greatly admired for his devotion to his work and above all for his integrity gaytan's widow Marie is also here and I know that she too is extremely welcome there's a special reason that I personally came to believe this Jana and his account of an intelligence officer who used the name Bishop who he said he'd seen with Oswald before the assassination and who later asked him to fabricate information linking Oswald to Castro's people thus Jana when I talked to him had told me repeatedly that as an exile activist he always in touch with the CIA he always contacted Bishop through a cutout let me correct myself I I said in touch with the CIA what verse Jana always told us was that he was in

[00:46:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qNH-x4Po-l0&t=2762s)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qNH-x4Po-l0&t=2762s)

Jana always told us was that he was in touch with a person who was in US intelligence he didn't say at at that time he suddenly did not say CIA but he said he always contacted Bishop through a cutout he told investigator FONSI that too but he always resisted revealing who the cutout was and what I'm about to say is that the reason that I came really to believe the Theano I pestered him again and again about the cutout and eventually decided to take a risk to push Antonio's patience to the limit and tell him that I thought he'd made it all up he seemed startled and then frustrated that he neither hit me nor threw me out of his house instead he took me upstairs opened a hatch way to the loft and dug in among the spider's webs and things in lofts Doug found an old cardboard box until he found a business card bearing the name of a woman in Puerto Rico she he said had been the cutout I flew to Puerto Rico and located the woman everything she told me and I interviewed her completely by surprise on her lunch break without having announced myself at all fitted what versi Ana had told me what she said took me to a further link in the chain a right-wing journalist in Washington DC named Virginia Pruitt asked about vasana she replied at first where is he now a little later though she said she'd never met him but she said you have to move around people like that she claimed that she didn't personally know a bishop and had never met David Phillips Phillips to the contrary was to say that he knew Pruitt well clearly some mistake as they would say in our magazine

00:48:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qNH-x4Po-l0&t=2880s)

as they would say in our magazine Private Eye there's new information on the Phillips Bishop issue new information last year while I was preparing the new edition of my book former CIA clandestine services officer Glenn Karl recalled asking Phillips whether he'd been Bishop Philips reaction Kant said was to acknowledge that he was the man in question but he did not explicitly confirm to me that he'd done what he was accused of doing meeting with Oswald he avoided discussing this point Antonio vasana will today let us know once and for all I think what he knows to be the truth or believes is the truth about the man he knew as his intelligence contact Bishop who may or may not let's leave it to to Antonio have been senior CI officer David Phillips after all the work and all the years I don't pretend to know the answer what is clear though is that elements of the truth of being kept secret are being kept secret still not least by the CIA it emerge or it excuse me it emerged a while back that Joanna DS the officer brought in from retirement to liaise with Congress's assassinations committee to decide what CIA documents investigators could and could not see was none other though the agency concealed this from the committee than the very CIA officer who in 1963 had been case officer to the d-r-e the anti-castro group that had the purported clash with oswald Inyo liens it was a gross deception one that Robert Blake II is called criminal a willful obstruction of justice I no longer believe anything the agency told us professor Anna Nelson who served on the records review board suggested that there be a congressional probe of the CIA alleged corruption of an inquiry into the Kennedy assassination but I

00:50:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qNH-x4Po-l0&t=3002s)

into the Kennedy assassination but I don't think we should hold our breath it's very late now contrary to what some people here think probably too late to be able to take the case much further I leave the last word ironically to another former Warren Commission counsel Bert Griffin who I was told was here today although I haven't seen him and shaken his hand yet Bert Griffin told me when I was making program for the BBC that he felt quote betrayed because the CIA and the FBI deliberately misled us concerning consider the possible reality that under the American system of civil liberties and the requirement of proved beyond a reasonable doubt it is virtually impossible to prosecute or uncover a well conceived and well executed conspiracy thank you for listening

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